

# P-20 Joint Education Leadership Committee

## Implementation Status of the P-20 Recommendations, August 2011

The Illinois P-20 Council was established by the legislature in 2008 to foster collaboration among state agencies, education institutions, local schools, community groups, employers, taxpayers, and families, and to collectively identify needed reforms to develop a seamless and sustainable statewide system of quality education and support. Its goal is to increase the proportion of Illinoisans with high-quality degrees and credentials to 60% by the year 2025. Today, only about 41 percent of the state's nearly 7 million working-age adults (25-64 years old) hold at least a two-year degree.

The mission of the Illinois P-20 Council is to deliberate and make recommendations to the Governor, Illinois General Assembly, and state agencies for developing a seamless and sustainable statewide system of quality education and support, from birth through adulthood, to maximize students' educational attainment, opportunities for success in the workforce, and contributions to their local communities. The P-20 Council issued their first round of recommendations for the General Assembly in January of 2011.

P-20's Joint Education Leadership Committee (JELC), headed by Lt. Governor Sheila Simon, is responsible for the implementation of the recommendations and encourages collaboration between state agencies that govern education and workforce issues. The following matrix highlights agency efforts toward the implementation of the P-20's January recommendations. Agencies and groups reflected include:

Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE)  
Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO)  
Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE)  
Illinois Community College Board (ICCB)  
Illinois Student Assistance Commission (ISAC)  
Illinois Early Learning Council (ELC)

Within the matrix, the bubble includes each respective P-20 recommendation as submitted to the General Assembly in January 2011. The bubble also includes the "Leads/Stakeholders" involved with the implementation of programs to reach the recommendation goals. Within the arrow you will find programs and tactics being implemented to reach the recommendation goals. One will also find the "Status" of each tactic, often with benchmarks or completion dates to lend more detail. Directly above each arrow is an indication of whether the agencies are "On Track" to achieve each recommendation, or if there is a "Roadblock." If a roadblock is identified, the "Critical Success Factor" will be identified at the bottom of the arrow's contents.

This matrix will be updated quarterly to reflect progress.

1. Align student learning standards and assessments to reflect the knowledge and skills students will need for the 21st Century.

Lead/Stakeholders: ISBE, IBHE, ICCB, DCEO, ELC

## ON TRACK

- In June 2010 the Illinois State Board of Education adopted new Illinois Learning Standards based on the Common Core Standards for college and careers. The Common Core Standards are internationally benchmarked standards that have now been adopted by more than 40 states. ISBE is working to get new assessments developed according to Common Core, which are to be implemented by 2014/2015 through Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers (PARCC) consortium. A comprehensive website has been developed to support the implementation. **Status: ISBE assessments will be developed by 2014/2015.**
- IBHE and ICCB are conducting articulation workshops to be replicated throughout the state. **Status: First set of workshops are complete, with more to come. In progress.**
- IBHE and ICCB are working through the Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI) faculty panels to align curriculum expectations. **Status: In progress. Panels continue revisions as curricula are updated with changes in the discipline or to state standards.**
- ICCB's College and Career Readiness sites are also working to align curriculum across their seven community college districts with local high school partners. ICCB is also working with community colleges across the state to host local alignment meetings based on the Common Core workshops hosted in the Fall of 2011. Additionally, they are working to align developmental education standards to the Common Core. ICCB is also working to implement Career & Technical Education focused (CTE) Illinois Articulation Initiative (IAI) panels, that will review the work of the Learning Exchange workgroups and determine both the necessity of and outcomes for CTE gatekeeper courses. Through the Carl D. Perkins Act (Perkins IV), the ICCB has been working to develop programs of study that include fully articulated coursework from secondary to postsecondary education in CTE programs throughout the state. **Status: In progress. Math work being finalized; English teams being convened in September - October, 2011; CTE Articulation Panels being reviewed and convened in the Fall 2011.**
- DCEO is assisting ISBE and ICCB in developing a college and career readiness assessment framework that is inclusive of workforce readiness skills as well as pathway level/technical assessments, including industry-recognized stackable credentials. In addition, DCEO is supporting the development of statewide P-20 Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) program of study models aligned to the State's economic development objectives. **Status: In progress.**
- ELC is reviewing early learning standards to make recommendations on ways to align with the Common Core Standards. **Status: In progress. Review will be complete by October 2011 to be included in Illinois' Early Learning Challenge application.**

2. Develop a system of assessment of student learning that provides reliable measures for accountability and guides to improve instruction and student learning.

Lead/Stakeholders: ISBE, IBHE, ICCB, ELC

## ROADBLOCK

- The ISBE is a governing member of the Partnership for the Assessment of College and Careers (PARCC) which is in the process of developing a new generation of student assessments based on the Common Core (see above). This new assessment system will be computer based and will provide immediate feedback on student growth. The PARCC assessment will incorporate writing through all grades. The new online evaluation will occur with greater frequency and provide feedback sooner, providing teachers with the ability to shape instruction for current students based on immediate results. **Status: ISBE assessments will be developed by 2014/2015.**
- ICCB currently has an Adult Education system of measuring outcomes established through the federal National Reporting Systems (NRS) for adult education. Students are evaluated using a federally approved assessments and the results are used in conjunction with content standards to guide instruction. ICCB also reviews certificate and degree programs for all 48 community colleges in the system. Institutions must demonstrate assessment of student learning as a part of their application process. Standards of assessment are measured against those required under statute as well as industry recognized credentials, along with recommendations from specialized accreditors, professional organizations, or similar entities. Through the requirements of the Perkins IV, the ICCB examines critical success measures for students completing CTE programs at the 48 community colleges. **Status: In progress. Ongoing.**
- IBHE reviews institutional and degree program proposals. Although quantifiable standardized measures across programs have traditionally eluded broad acceptance in higher education, institutions must demonstrate assessment of learning as a part of every program. Standards of assessment are measured against those required under statute in fields leading to licensure or certification, and through those recommended by specialized accreditors, professional organizations, etc. **Status: In Progress. Ongoing.**
- P-20 and ELC are working in coordination with ISBE on the development of a Kindergarten Readiness Assessment which would evaluate incoming students in an effort to gauge the skills of schoolchildren in learning and interacting with others, guide professional development of teachers, and inform decisions regarding resources such as class size. **Status: In Progress. ISBE anticipates implementing the assessment at pilot schools beginning Fall 2012 with data begin collected from that point forward.**
- **Critical Success Factor:** ISBE doesn't have sufficient State funding to keep the writing portion of the ACT, weakening their system of assessment. Funding needs to be restored.

3. Develop an accountability system which will enable easy access and data evaluation about student learning, school climate, and expenditures, districts, community colleges, and universities.

**Lead/Stakeholders:** ISBE, ICCB, IBHE, DCEO, ISAC, P-20 Data, Assessment, and Accountability Committee; ELC

### ON TRACK

- All above agencies are working on the development of the Longitudinal Data System (LDS), which will provide data to help to track the outcomes of Illinois students as they progress from Pre-K through Postsecondary education, and as they enter the workforce when fully deployed. The LDS also includes data for students enrolled in ISBE run birth to 5 early learning programs, for example Pre-School for All. Illinois has received \$20 million in federal grants to develop and implement the LDS. **Status: First round of LDS data collection coming Fall 2011**
- ISBE has been selected by the Gates and Carnegie Foundations to participate in the Shared Learning Infrastructure, with a projected investment of \$100 million for a five state consortium. **Status: Pilot project projected to begin in 2012.**
- IBHE is also working on the development of the Illinois Higher Education Consortium (IHEC), an LDS where information will be more readily available for academic purposes (see recommendation #4). ICCB has the Partnership Data System (PDS) as well. **Status: IHEC will begin gathering data Fall 2011.**
- P-20's Data and Assessments Committee is working on 1-page summaries for the School Report Card. They have ongoing focus groups with educators and other stakeholders concerning these one pagers. DCEO is supporting the school report card project by developing metrics for career readiness and success that leverage workforce longitudinal data, including tracking transitions to employment. **Status: 1-page summaries and focus groups will be completed within the next few months.**
- ISBE, ICCB, and IBHE will be holding regional workshops on the high school feedback report. **Status: First round of workshops is complete, with more to come.**
- ICCB will be implementing a professional development series that is focused on the use of Perkins IV performance measures, the use of data for program improvements and continued training in using the Pathways to Results continuous improvement process. **Status: ICCB series implementation August 2011.**

4. Coordinate education data systems and workforce data systems to improve career counseling and career preparation.

**Lead/ Stakeholders:** ISBE, IBHE, ICCB, DCEO, ELC

### ON TRACK

- DCEO is facilitating the launch of the Illinois Pathways Initiative, including the formation of sector-based Learning Exchanges and support for P-20 STEM Program of Study. Learning Exchanges will provide a new and innovative public-private infrastructure that coordinates investments on a sector-by-sector basis to improve access to resources, build professional networks, and facilitate P-20 transitions and planning. DCEO is coordinating the development of an intergovernmental agreement between itself and ISBE, ICCB, IBHE, ISAC and IDES. **Status: Learning exchanges ready by Fall 2011.**
- DCEO, in partnership with Illinois Department of Employment Security, will be applying for a U.S. Department of Labor Workforce Data Quality Initiative grant to build a workforce longitudinal data system that integrates data with the state longitudinal data system for the purpose of tracking transitions to employment and P-20 talent pipeline performance. **Status: Application expected to be submitted Fall 2011.**
- DCEO and ISBE are designing and implementing a Learning & Performance Management System (LPMS) to offer cloud computing services and a statewide instructional improvement platform that provides a common data and applications infrastructure to ensure access to local and state systems, in combination with e-learning resources and instructional support services. **Status: Will have an incremental rollout starting with the LDS system coming online Fall 2011.**
- ICCB Shifting Gears initiative has worked across education and workforce to improve career counseling and preparation activities by embedding Career Development as a key component of statewide Bridge definition. **Status: ICCB initiative ending in December 2011.**
- ELC and ISBE have started discussions to create an analogue to the Learning & Performance Management System (LPMS) for early learning. **Status: In Progress.**

5. Enlarge the pipeline of **high quality candidates** into teacher and leadership positions throughout the entire educational system.

**Lead/ Stakeholders:** ISBE, ICCB, IBHE, ISAC, ELC

## ROADBLOCK

- ISBE is leveraging private funding matches to increase minority teaching candidates for the Teach for America Program. **Status: In progress. Ongoing.**
- ISAC is responsible for administrating several programs designed specifically for students studying to become teachers, to help pay for college, including the Minority Teachers of Illinois (MTI) Program, the Illinois Future Teacher Corps (IFTC) Program, and the Illinois Special Education Tuition Waiver (SETTW) Program. There are also programs available to help teachers repay their student loans after college. The Illinois Teachers Loan Repayment Program encourages academically talented Illinois students to teach in Illinois schools based on certain teaching requirements. **Status: In progress. Ongoing.**
- Using its online student portal WhatsNextIllinois, ISAC – via the College Illinois Corps – encourages students to begin exploring their strengths and interests beginning in 8<sup>th</sup> grade. The College Illinois Corps mentors are highly passionate about education and serve as role models in this regard to younger students and at the same time represent the future teachers, counselors, and leaders of Illinois. Further, by encouraging students and families to begin planning for college AND career early – including the financing and expected return on investment – students can make financially sound choices that will allow them to finish their education degrees and to teach without leaving either college or the profession due to student loan debt burden. **Status: In progress. Ongoing.**
- The ELC's Workforce Development Committee is building capacity to better prepare the early learning workforce by providing scholarships to students studying early childhood through the Gateways to Opportunities program. This committee is also looking at ways to align coursework in early childhood programs of study to smooth the transition for students who transfer from 2 year to 4 year institutions. **Status: Ongoing**
- **Critical Success Factor:** General Assembly eliminated all ISBE funding for teaching and educational leader mentoring. ISBE currently assigns a mentor to each new teacher for a period of two years to develop skills and strategies necessary for instructional and leadership excellence. IN FY 10 4,086 teachers were mentored through 64 pilot mentoring projects and in FY 11 an estimated 2,373 were mentored by in 45 pilot projects. Funding needs to be restored.

6. Improve **training and certification** for teachers and educational leaders in accordance with findings from research and pilot programs.

**Lead/ Stakeholders:** ISBE, ICCB, IBHE, ISAC

## ON TRACK

- Teacher preparation programs are working with ISBE to redesign their professional education courses to meet the revised Illinois Professional Teaching Standards which focus on literacy, differentiated instruction, and individual needs. New assessments will be designed to assess for these standards. Programs are piloting a new performance assessment for student teachers which includes a growth in student learning component. Illinois is a part of a number of states that are working with Stanford University's faculty as assessments and rubrics are developed. Their work will be shared with programs across the state this fall and additional programs will begin phasing in. **Status: New assessments in place 2013.**
- New Principal Preparation Programs are being designed with ISBE which focus on the principal as an instructional leader and PK-12 levels. A new "principal" endorsement will be given for individuals completing these programs. All preparation programs will need to be approved by the State Board of Education and the Board of Higher Education or be discontinued. **Status: In progress. New performance assessments are being developed.**
- ISBE has undertaken a redesign of the teacher certification and credentialing system to provide increased clarity. Creation of the English Language Learner (ELL) endorsement, making IL the first state to offer teachers a credential for acquiring additional skills to better serve a growing student demographic in Illinois. (ISBE would have more info about these.)
- The ICCB is working with the IBHE to redesign the teacher education requirements for introductory courses in Education as well as the Associate of Arts in Teaching degrees. **Status: Completion expected June 2012.**
- The Elementary and Middle Level Advisory Group (EMAG) has been meeting since April and is completing work developing literacy and content standards for both elementary and middle level teachers. **Status: Rules should be out Fall 2011.**
- ISBE, IBHE, and ICCB are working with the Elementary and Middle Grades Advisory Group (EMAG) to inform changes to teacher preparation programs in order to ensure educators have the preparation and background to teach successfully in a variety of settings and with a variety of students. EMAG will also inform teachers on changes to education programs in light of the adoption of the Common Core learning standards. **Status: In progress. Rules will be developed and begin going through the rulemaking process by Fall 2011.**
- ISAC has a Financial Aid Training and Certification program for teachers and educational leaders. **Status: In progress. Ongoing.**

7. Improve teacher evaluation and professional development for the entire education spectrum.

Lead/ Stakeholders: ISBE, IBHE, ICCB, DCEO, ELC

ON TRACK

- ISBE is working with Regional Offices of Education to implement professional development on the new Illinois Learning Standards based on the Common Core Standards. ISBE has already hosted eight workshops this summer, and additional professional trainings are being planned. **Status: First round of workshops complete, with more to come.**
- ICCB Adult Education provides professional development (face to face and online) in every area of the state which is designed to increase teacher knowledge and preparation, and leads to improved student outcomes, educational attainment, and success. **Status: Ongoing.**
- ICCB is working to develop stand alone modules that assist students in taking the Basic Skills Test for teacher preparation programs. **Status: Modules are developed and review process is beginning.**
- ELC has already supported several professional development opportunities for early childhood educators as well as early childhood faculty at institutions of higher education. Additional workshops on best practices are in the process of being planned. **Status: Ongoing.**

8. Improve educational attainment through attention to prevention, intervention, and reengagement.

Lead/ Stakeholders: ISBE, IBHE, ICCB, ISAC, DCEO, ELC

ROADBLOCK

- ISBE received a five-year professional development grant to scale up Response to Intervention (RtI) throughout Illinois in Sept 2010. RtI is a general education instructional initiative that requires collaborative efforts from all district staff, general educators, special educators, and bilingual/English Language Learner (ELL) staff to identify and monitor student academic and behavioral needs. **Status: In progress.**
- IBHE recently sent out 2100 letters to college drop-outs encouraging re-enrollment. They plan to expand this program. **Status: In progress.**
- ICCB has been given money from the Gates Foundation to redesign adult education by improving Adult Basic Education (ABE) student transitions to postsecondary, contextualizing instruction, placing ABE students in career pathways, and significantly increasing postsecondary credentials. DCEO is collaborating to identify workforce priorities and strategies. **Status: In design phase which is projected to be complete November 2011.**
- ICCB is engaged in a redesign of remedial education. The Redesign Strategy was outlined in the State's Complete College America (CCA) application. This portion of the application is being reviewed in an effort to pursue alternative funding. The Illinois Math Association of Community Colleges is finalizing its crosswalk of remedial math standards to the common core--complete October, 2011; The ICCB Developmental Education Advisory Committee will convene a language arts group to look at ELA Common core standards in October 2011. **Status: In progress.**
- The Illinois General Assembly passed performance funding as HB1503, which is now Public Act 97-0320. IBHE held the first meeting of the Performance Funding Steering Committee July 21 to initiate the process of developing a funding methodology. **Status: Performance funding will take effect FY 2013.**
- ISAC's College Illinois Corps and the ISAC Call Center have been designed around meeting student needs before college, during college through completion, and after college support. **Status: Complete. Ongoing.**
- A subgrant of the federal College Access Challenge Grant, which ISAC administers for the State, has been awarded to a partnership that includes the Chicago Workforce Investment Council, Center for Adult and Experiential Learning, and Women Employed. They are developing a pilot program to encourage re-enrollment by adults with some college but no degree, particularly low-income adults. **Status: Pilot program implementation date being revised.**
- ISAC is expanding early awareness efforts to ensure that students and their families have an accurate, early understanding of the availability of financial support for college, allowing families to begin realistically preparing and planning for postsecondary education well before the end of high school. **Completion: Testing various initiatives and will be evaluated during 2011-2012. Flat Stanley themed early childhood campaign will expand to 40 schools this year.**
- The Illinois Community College will continue to expand dual credit and dual enrollment opportunities for high school students. A Career and College Readiness project is being planned for CPS and City Colleges. **Status: Career and College Readiness project rollout.**
- Critical Success Factor:** ISBE's IHOPE program, which reenrolls truant students, is unfunded in the General Assembly's 2012 budget. Also, the state has been losing early childhood programs because they do not fund the districts on time. The state needs to reallocate money for the IHOPE program and pay bills on time.

9. Increase public engagement across the entire spectrum of education.

Lead/ Stakeholders: P-20, ICCB, IBHE, ISAC, DCEO, ELC

ON TRACK

- ISBE will be working with their Performance Evaluation Advisory Committee (PEAC) to host public engagement sessions this fall as new rules are being developed for teacher and principal evaluations. **Status: Happening Fall 2011.**
- The ISBE Board will host public input sessions fall 2011 to seek input in budget development for FY 2013. **Status: Happening Fall 2011.**
- In Fall 2010 the ISBE began a partnering with the Illinois Parent Teacher Association (PTA) to raise awareness of the new Illinois Learning Standards. ISBE and the PTA are working to communicate with local PTA members through their newsletter and other communications tools. **Status: In Progress.**
- P-20 is talking with Grand Victoria concerning them funding local P-20 initiatives. **Status: First meeting will take place by the end of September 2011.**
- ISAC recently held a statewide conference on college access and completion issues and planning for nearly 300 Illinois college and university leaders, high school leaders, community partners, federal TRIO program staff, and legislators and policymakers interested in high education. With sessions presented by state and national leaders, including the U.S. Under Secretary of Education, attendees will receive purposeful information, best practices, and tools to help participants walk with plans for moving their access and completion efforts forward. **Status: In progress. Ongoing annually.**
- IBHE has conducted a communications campaign about the *Illinois Public Agenda for College and Career Success*, including: launching the [www.1illinois.org](http://www.1illinois.org) website, producing a series of eight videos discussing the four Public Agenda goals, and making presentations focusing public awareness on supporting minority and low income college students in order to achieve academic success and college completion as a means to reducing the achievement gap. **Status: Ongoing.**
- ELC actively promotes family engagement by encouraging community collaboration between local stakeholders through a variety of grant opportunities including the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program and the Community Systems Development Partnership. **Status: Ongoing.**

10. Track and report progress toward the goal: to increase the proportion of Illinoisans with high-quality degrees and credentials to 60 percent by the year 2025.

Lead/ Stakeholders: ISBE, IBHE, ICCB, ISAC, DCEO

ON TRACK

- Tracking will be enabled by the Illinois Longitudinal Data System (ILDS) and Illinois Higher Education Consortium (IHEC) after the Fall 2011 implementation.
- ISAC is working on a Gift Assistance Program Database (GAPdb) that will provide a single view of all grants processed for a student by ISAC within the State of Illinois. This database, and the portals associated with it, will provide valuable insight into student financial assistance. Reporting on the data will provide trends on various data points including grant awards across demographic variables. **Status: The initial phase of GAPdb will be available in February 2012 as part of the Monetary Award Program (MAP) grant startup process for academic year 2012-13. Additional data elements will be added to GAPdb as other ISAC managed grant programs are integrated into GAPdb.**
- ISAC has developed a database that can track low-income students, especially those who become MAP recipients, from 11<sup>th</sup> grade through the completion of their undergraduate postsecondary education. **Status: Complete. Ongoing.**